

Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-11

FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00

DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /145 W

----- 092495

R 131650Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7793

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL DOUALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 0573

PARIS FOR CIEC DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: CIEC, EFIN, ENRG, CM

SUBJECT: REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR WORK OF CIEC COMMISSIONS

REF: A. STATE 20560; B. YAOUNDE 572

1. REF B REPORTS GENERAL ARTICULATION BY PRESIDENT AHIDJO OF GURC ATTITUDE TOWARD CIEC. CAMEROON HAS SENT SOME OF ITS BEST ECONOMIC POLICY MAKERS AND EXECUTORS TO CIEC. INDIVIDUAL DELEGATES ARE GENERALLY ECONOMICALLY RATHER THAN POLITICALLY ORIENTED AND ESSENTIALLY ORIENTED TO WESTERN ECONOMIC THINKING. ALTHOUGH CAMDEL CAN THUS BE EXPECTED ADDRESS SELF SERIOUSLY TO REAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, IT CAN NOT REPEAT NOT BE EXPECTED TO GO OUT ON LIMB IN ANY WAY THAT MIGHT JEOPARDIZE BARGAINING STRENGTH OF UNIVIED THIRD WORLD POSITION EVEN WHEN THAT POSITION MAY BE DETRIMENTAL TO NARROWER AND MORE IMMEDIATE CAMEROONIAN NATIONAL INTERESTS.

2. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO PARA 5 REFTEL A RELATIVE TO RAW MATERIALS COMMISSION.

-- CAMEROON MOST INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (ESPECIALLY COFFEE AND COCOA) AND BAUXITE.

-- GURC IS STRONGLY INTERESTED IN INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, PARTICIPATED IN NEGOTIATIONS OF AND WILL BE ADHERING TO NEW COCOA AND COFFEE AGREEMENTS. WHILE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING BEST PRICE POSSIBLE, STABILITY OF EARNINGS IS PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT.

-- GURC WILL PUCH FOR COMPENSATORY FINANCING, ESTABLISHMENT OF REMUNERATIVE PRICES, STABILIZATION OF EXPORT EARNINGS AND REGULATORY STOCKS WITH COMMON FUND FOR FINANCING. WHILE GURC SUPPORTS CONCEPT OF INDEXATION, IT COULD PROBABLY BE SATISFIED BY OTHER MEANS, IF CONVINCED THEY WOULD SERVE ESSENTIALLY TO PROTECT PURCHASING POWER OF EXPORT EARNINGS.

-- CAMEROON SEES ITSELF AS REGIONAL FRANCOPHONE CENTRAL AFRICAN (UDEAC) LEADER AND WILL FEEL RESPONSIBILITY TO WORK FOR INTERESTS OF ASSOCIATES FROM THAT REGION AS WELL
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AS AF'S AND LDC'S IN ENERAL.

3. FOLLOWING COMMENTS KEYED TO PARA 6 REFTEL A RELATIVE TO DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

-- CAMEROON AS OIL IMPORTER SUFFERED WORST B/P DEFICIT IN HISTORY IN 1975 AND IS HIGHLY ATTUNED TO IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL NEEDS OF MSA'S.

-- GURC WILL STRESS LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE POWER SOURCES.

-- GURC EXPERTS WELL AWARE OF KISSINGER PROPOSALS, BUT LIKELY STRESS NEED FOR LONG-TERM MONEY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.

-- GURC APPARENTLY FEELS OPEC MOVING TOWARD INCREASED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO WIDER RANGE OF COUNTRIES AND WILL WISH KEEP MODERATE BUT FRIENDLY PRESSURE ON OIL PRODUCERS TO DO MORE.

-- GURC WANTS INCREASED ACCESS TO CAPITAL MARKETS BUT WE HAVE NO INFO RE ITS POSITION ON PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT TRUST.

-- GURC IS BASICALLY AGRICULTURAL COUNTRY AND POTENTIAL FOOD SUPPLIER TO ADJACENT STATES. SHOULD ENDORSE IFAD AND INTERNATIONAL GRAIN RESERVE AS IT ALSO SUFFERED FROM DROUGHT ALONG WITH ADJACENT STATES.

-- BETTER TERMS OF TRADE AND BETTER ACCESS TO MARKETS ARE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES. GURC LED THE WAY AGAINST REVERSE PREFERENCES IN UDEAC AND HAS CONSISTENTLY ARGUED AGAINST TARIFF AND OTHER TRADE BARRIERS.

-- CAMEROON NOT PARTICULARLY AFFECTED BY GSP. PROBLEM OF COCOA AND COFFEE EXPORTS TO US LIES IN LACK OF QUALITY, NOT TARIFFS.

-- GURC WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ARGUE FOR EASING OF DEBT BURDENS
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BY ACCEPTABLE MEANS - RESCHEDULING, FORGIVING, ETC.

-- GURC WORKING ACTIVELY TO ATTRACT WESTERN INVESTMENT AND TECHNOLOGY.

-- GURC HAS BASICALLY AVOIDED SPEAKING OUT ON MULTINATIONALS BUT SHOULD BE INCLINED TOWARD CONCILIATORY POSITION ON SUPPORTING CODE OF CONDUCT AND INVESTMENT INSURANCE.

-- GURC WANTS AND NEEDS AID IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT, WILL ARGUE FOR HIGHER LEVEL OF AID, AND IS BASICALLY REALISTIC CONCERNING TIED AID.

4. LIKE MOST LDC'S, GURC HAS LIMITED POOL OF TALENT FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE USING SAME PEOPLE FOR ALL.

COORDINATION IS NOT A BIG PROBLEM AND THE INDIVIDUALS
USUALLY OPERATE UNDER POLICY GUIDELINES RATHER THAN
SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS.

5. THESE GENERAL COMMENTS BASED MAINLY ON PAST
CONVERSATIONS AND OBSERVATIONS AS PRIMARY CONTACTS NOW
IN PARIS. POST WILL ATTEMPT FLESH OUT AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK
AS INDIVIDUALS RETURN.
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